



PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

APPLICANT: LONERGAN ET AL.

SERIAL NO.: 09/955,832

FILED:

SEPTEMBER 19, 2001

FOR:

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EXAMINER: R. MADSEN

ART UNIT: 1761

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Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 I certify that on Www 18, 2009, this paper is being deposited with the U.S. Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to the Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

RESPONSE

Dear Sir or Madam:

This communication is responsive to the non-final Office Action mailed on March 15, 2004, in regards to the above-cited patent application.

The three-month shortened statutory period for reply is set to expire on June 15, 2004. It is respectfully submitted that this Response is timely filed within the shortened statutory period. However, if any extension period is required in order for this paper to be timely filed, then Applicants hereby request an extension for such additional time period and authorize the appropriate fees therefore to be charged to the Kagan Binder Deposit Account No. 50-1775 and notify us of the same.

It is believed that no other fee is required in filing this Response. However, if any fee is required, please charge the appropriate fee(s) to the Kagan Binder Deposit Account No. 50-1775 and notify us of the same.